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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSE SALES SET NEW RECORDS

Sport fishing and wild game hunting in the United States attracted enough new recruits during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1955, to establish a record of 33,046,361 paid license holders, an increase of 392,162 over the previous year, the Fish and Wildlife Service reported today to Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay.

In the enjoyment of these outdoor sports, hunters and fishermen spent nearly \$87 million for all types of hunting and fishing licenses, permits, tags, trout stamps, and Federal duck stamps.

Fishing, still the most popular sport, recorded 18,854,809 paid license holders, compared with 18,580,813 in fiscal year 1954. Paid hunting license holders totaled 14,191,552; last year the figure was 14,073,386.

In 1955, fishermen paid \$39,501,838 for all types of licenses and special permits, tags, and trout stamps. This is an increase of \$574,103 over the 1954 total of \$38,927,735.

During the same period, hunters spent \$42,790,143 for their licenses, tags, and permits. Federal duck stamps cost \$4,363,132. In 1954, licenses, tags, and permits cost \$41,504,921, and Federal duck stamps, \$4,542,860.

Resident fishing licenses accounted for 16,211,767 of the 18,854,809 total; nonresident licenses numbered 2,643,042. The States to attract the greatest number of nonresident anglers were Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan, Tennessee, Arkansas, Colorado, and Florida, in that order. In Nevada, license sales to nonresidents amounted to 25,494 of their total of 54,887.

In the category of hunting license sales, the total of 14,191,552 was divided between 13,852,676 residents and 338,876 nonresident. Wyoming reported 32,687 out-of-State hunters, or approximately one-third of their total resident license sales of 101,491.

Based on the total number of paid license holders, the "big ten" States in the license sales lineup are shown below for the 1954-55 and 1953-54 seasons:

FISHING

<u>1954-55</u>		<u>1953-54</u>	
Minnesota	1,374,942	Minnesota	1,277,917
California	1,285,980	California	1,256,004
Michigan	1,188,134	Michigan	1,159,925
Wisconsin	1,084,718	Wisconsin	1,080,692
Illinois	881,995	Ohio	885,254
Ohio	877,916	New York	817,026
New York	810,519	Illinois	788,743
Tennessee	742,096	Tennessee	768,480
Pennsylvania	740,034	Pennsylvania	731,484
Indiana	623,717	Indiana	590,816

HUNTING

<u>1954-55</u>		<u>1953-54</u>	
Michigan	1,186,454	Michigan	1,211,790
New York	936,398	New York	918,047
Pennsylvania	900,397	Pennsylvania	889,801
Ohio	635,661	Ohio	640,713
California	618,125	California	614,190
Wisconsin	585,769	Wisconsin	594,486
Illinois	516,016	Illinois	525,360
Minnesota	493,450	Minnesota	481,444
Indiana	450,713	Colorado	434,803
Georgia	425,218	Tennessee	432,344

Service Director John L. Farley stated that this is the second year a new system of reporting hunting and fishing license statistics has been used. As developed by the Service last year, the general licenses are segregated from the special licenses, permits, tags, stamps, etc. This eliminates duplications in the totals since a hunter may buy, in addition to his general license, a pheasant license-tag and a deer permit, or a fisherman may be required in some States to purchase a trout stamp.

Director Farley emphasized that the apportionment of Federal aid funds to the States for fish and wildlife restoration programs is based upon the number of paid license holders and not upon the total of all licenses and permits issued. For apportionment purposes in fiscal year 1957, the total number of paid hunting license holders in 1955, totaling 14,191,552, will be used for the Pittman-Robertson program, and 18,854,809 paid fishing license holders will be used in apportioning funds for fish restoration under the Dingell-Johnson program.

In the attached compilation of statistics, the data have been arranged in five columns. The first three columns cover, as nearly as can be determined, the number of paid license holders, consisting of resident, nonresident, and the total for each State.

The fourth column presents an enumeration of all types of licenses issued by the States to sportsmen, such as general hunting and fishing licenses, big game, and special types of issuances such as trout stamps, woodcock permits, special area licenses, free licenses to the aged, veterans, etc., special gear permits (archers, fish houses, etc.), and others. The numbers of these special licenses is indicative of the growing trend toward more highly specialized and regulated hunting and fishing.

The fifth column gives the gross cost which sportsmen pay for the right to indulge in their favorite sports. The totals in the fifth column includes fees for the general licenses, and for all special permits, tags, and stamps, except the migratory waterfowl hunting stamps which are issued by the Federal Government and not by the States.

The appended tabulations are listed alphabetically by States.

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HUNTING LICENSE STATISTICS FOR THE UNITED STATES
July 1, 1954 to June 30, 1955

STATE	<u>PAID HUNTING LICENSE HOLDERS</u>			<u>TOTAL LICENSES,</u> <u>PERMITS, ETC.</u>	<u>TOTAL COST ^{2/} TO</u>
	RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT	TOTAL	ISSUED ^{1/}	HUNTERS FOR ALL LICENSES ISSUED
Alabama	258,959	2,802	261,761	266,981	\$ 532,723
Arizona	98,432	3,419	101,851	179,000	594,364
Arkansas	228,664	7,931	236,595	236,595	478,101
California	617,011	1,114	618,125	1,269,185	2,498,837
Colorado	341,349	21,303	362,652	363,196	2,192,649
Connecticut	57,540	693	58,233	58,233	185,424
Delaware	22,773	465	23,238	23,244	58,447
Florida	122,357	2,122	124,479	142,642	683,467
Georgia	423,541	1,677	425,218	427,787	297,808
Idaho	183,614	5,097	188,711	363,895	692,209
Illinois	510,446	5,570	516,016	516,016	1,240,717
Indiana	448,595	2,118	450,713	464,713	479,338
Iowa	347,043	3,231	350,274	354,154	584,935
Kansas	184,146	2,174	186,320	251,194	435,975
Kentucky	245,092	7,850	252,942	252,942	822,795
Louisiana	239,695	2,761	242,456	242,456	534,610
Maine	149,922	26,498	176,420	176,420	851,963
Maryland	135,228	4,475	139,703	143,337	509,316
Massachusetts	117,165	2,044	119,209	133,026	373,148
Michigan	1,165,934	20,520	1,186,454	1,187,499	3,499,015
Minnesota	491,407	2,043	493,450	493,450	1,310,196
Mississippi	193,529	2,305	195,834	195,834	363,094
Missouri	319,307	1,834	321,141	321,141	1,021,502
Montana	178,244	1,764	180,008	323,629	707,235
Nebraska	176,815	3,093	179,908	179,908	320,868
Nevada	32,306	4,795	37,101	82,141	414,019
New Hampshire	67,670	19,719	87,389	91,148	523,321
New Jersey	172,787	2,547	175,334	176,487	582,459
New Mexico	79,847	2,914	82,761	82,986	475,996
New York	912,336	24,062	936,398	943,409	2,262,465
North Carolina	340,954	5,350	346,304	372,695	805,249
North Dakota	103,638	2,143	105,781	105,865	363,742
Ohio	633,044	2,617	635,661	635,661	1,305,343
Oklahoma	174,565	1,909	176,474	197,320	405,720
Oregon	264,091	1,425	265,516	509,079	1,429,722
Pennsylvania	869,570	30,827	900,397	915,875	3,385,224
Rhode Island	12,938	189	13,127	13,995	31,233
South Carolina	155,428	4,056	159,484	159,484	368,737
South Dakota	152,955	18,767	171,722	171,722	931,506
Tennessee	419,130	4,366	423,496	454,051	512,671
Texas	379,635	2,604	382,239	382,239	855,106
Utah	155,786	12,945	168,731	190,620	1,097,492
Vermont	72,549	11,016	83,565	85,174	308,353
Virginia	370,461	6,501	376,962	527,269	863,028
Washington	291,238	696	291,934	546,876	1,440,935
West Virginia	252,498	7,020	259,518	301,650	615,284
Wisconsin	580,951	4,818	585,769	589,142	1,433,748
Wyoming	101,491	32,687	134,178	140,566	1,110,598
TOTALS	13,852,676	338,876	14,191,552	16,241,931	\$42,790,687

^{1/} This includes general resident and non-resident hunting licenses, permits, tags, stamps and such free licenses as are distributed by some states.

^{2/} This is the gross cost to the hunter for various types and categories of licenses issued by the respective states for the privilege of hunting for and/or possessing game birds and mammals. The 2,181,566 Migratory Waterfowl Stamps (Duck Stamps) purchased at a cost of \$4,363,132 are not included in this table.

FISHING LICENSE STATISTICS FOR THE UNITED STATES
July 1, 1954 to June 30, 1955

STATE	<u>PAID FISHING LICENSE HOLDERS</u>			TOTAL LICENSES, PERMITS, ETC. ISSUED ^{1/}	TOTAL COST ^{2/} TO ANGLERS FOR ALL LICENSES ISSUED
	RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT	TOTAL		
Alabama	221,515	20,515	242,030	250,896	\$ 288,344
Arizona	94,874	48,054	142,928	142,928	379,294
Arkansas	264,415	133,978	398,393	398,393	752,514
California	1,271,038	14,942	1,285,980	1,285,980	3,847,275
Colorado	258,094	102,609	360,703	360,714	894,804
Connecticut	104,321	4,360	108,681	109,425	378,511
Delaware	9,756	1,636	11,392	11,392	24,465
Florida	268,413	102,483	370,896	370,896	969,656
Georgia	423,541	7,270	430,811	437,876	282,498
Idaho	183,319	65,929	249,248	254,508	706,089
Illinois	862,908	19,087	881,995	881,995	1,020,878
Indiana	584,275	39,442	623,717	642,923	705,062
Iowa	399,310	15,389	414,699	414,699	595,002
Kansas	213,267	5,766	219,033	219,033	448,071
Kentucky	327,956	77,968	405,924	405,924	861,405
Louisiana	187,832	29,450	217,282	217,282	282,876
Maine	136,750	74,308	211,058	211,058	642,475
Maryland	96,705	22,803	119,508	120,790	219,034
Massachusetts	221,664	6,289	227,953	242,356	659,222
Michigan	878,668	309,466	1,188,134	1,404,908	2,309,928
Minnesota	1,058,432	316,510	1,374,942	1,451,023	2,543,412
Mississippi	131,784	34,397	166,181	166,181	379,405
Missouri	540,984	51,741	592,725	592,725	1,341,086
Montana	178,244	38,207	216,451	216,451	482,972
Nebraska	222,219	10,559	232,778	232,778	366,477
Nevada	29,393	25,494	54,887	60,382	192,137
New Hampshire	81,822	51,116	132,938	136,697	437,300
New Jersey	138,624	9,838	148,462	230,613	584,261
New Mexico	63,369	32,020	95,389	97,412	346,099
New York	766,585	43,934	810,519	847,982	1,835,910
North Carolina	316,508	10,546	327,054	382,934	657,143
North Dakota	76,360	1,916	78,276	78,276	82,108
Ohio	830,103	47,813	877,916	877,916	1,747,877
Oklahoma	352,795	60,684	413,479	413,479	889,914
Oregon	291,115	27,092	318,207	318,342	1,169,232
Pennsylvania	706,079	33,955	740,034	740,034	1,880,228
Rhode Island	19,950	518	20,468	26,297	47,477
South Carolina	311,361	12,802	324,163	342,849	411,906
South Dakota	100,199	38,943	139,142	139,142	277,065
Tennessee	522,797	219,299	742,096	811,706	766,148
Texas	455,975	8,359	464,334	464,334	782,533
Utah	164,586	8,514	173,100	181,111	513,125
Vermont	75,207	34,335	109,542	109,644	253,487
Virginia	359,474	12,113	371,587	442,679	597,956
Washington	351,756	19,980	371,736	371,736	1,342,282
West Virginia	185,278	7,862	193,140	219,907	377,129
Wisconsin	758,381	326,337	1,084,718	1,112,213	2,342,478
Wyoming	113,766	56,444	170,210	176,568	587,288
TOTALS	16,211,767	2,643,042	18,854,809	19,625,387	\$39,501,838

^{1/} This includes general resident and non-resident fishing licenses, permits, tags, stamps, and such free licenses as distributed by some states.

^{2/} This is the gross cost to the fishermen for various types and categories of licenses issued by the respective states for the privilege of fishing for and/or possessing fishes.